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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ronald L. Hollis  
Serial No.: 09/736,555  
Filed: December 13, 2000  
For: Instantaneous Price Quotation System For Custom  
Manufactured Parts  
Attorney's Docket No. N-6732  
Customer No. 23456

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

To the Honorable Commissioner  
of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicant and his attorneys in the above referenced application are aware of the following prior art references which are relevant for the reasons indicated.

**1. METRO PLASTICS**

Exhibit A provided herewith is a screen copy of the website of Metro Plastics.

Metro Plastics is a small manufacturer that provides Stereolithography services. They have a similar system to the 3D System in which the user inputs a volume, length, width and height of a single part. The system then calculates a price. The awareness of their system was in 1999.

Key Points:

- The system does NOT allow part data to be uploaded and analyzed
- The pricing is subject to change because the user can easily input incorrect information for multiple parts and quantities

- Only 1 part is to be quoted with a quantity of 1
- Technology was for Stereolithography models only
- Any use of the system requires the user to have a working knowledge of the actual manufacturing processes

## **2. 3DQ CONCEPTS**

Exhibit B attached hereto is a printout of a screen shot from the 3DQ Concepts website.

3DQ Concepts is a small value added reseller of engineering technologies. One particular technology they sell is called Z-corp, which is a concept part modeler that uses starch and sugar water. They provide the capability to purchase concept models from their website by having the user select the size box the part would fit within. Pricing is then determined by this selection.

### **Key Points:**

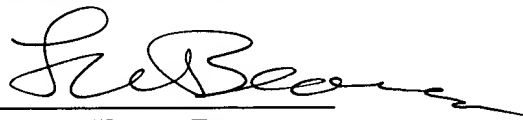
- Z-corp parts are NOT considered real parts, but concept models only
- The pricing is VERY RUDIMENTARY and based on box size only
- The system does NOT allow part data to be uploaded and analyzed
- Only 1 part is to be quoted with a quantity of 1
- Technology was for Z-corp models only

## RAPID PROTOTYPING GENERAL INFORMATION

The description of the general background of rapid prototyping as set forth at pages 3 through page 11, line 7 of the present application is taken from the text of "rapid prototyping primer", Chapter 2 found at [www.me.psu.edu/lamancusa/rapidpro/primer/chapter2.htm](http://www.me.psu.edu/lamancusa/rapidpro/primer/chapter2.htm) published by the Penn State University, Department of Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment associated with the filing of this Response to Deposit Account 23-0035.

Respectfully submitted,

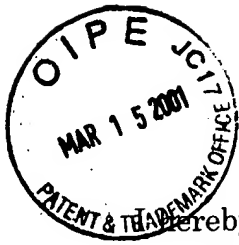


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CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING

I hereby certify that this Information Disclosure Statement is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Box IDS  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

on March 12, 2001.

Lucian Wayne Beavers

Signature

Registration Number 28,183

Date